

# United States Patent [19]

Chung et al.

## [11] Patent Number:

5,644,721

**Date of Patent:** [45]

Jul. 1, 1997

#### [54] MULTIPLE CURRENCY TRAVEL RESERVATION INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM AND METHOD

[75] Inventors: Kieran Sebastian Chung, Plantation; Phillip Mark Perez Megofna, Sunrise;

Bhagirath Nirmalsinh Gohil, Miami; Jose Bernos, Miami Beach, all of Fla.

[73] Assignee: System One Information

Management, L.L.C., Houston, Tex.

[21] Appl. No.: 521,354

[22] Filed: Aug. 30, 1995

[51] Int. CL<sup>6</sup> ..... ... G06F 17/60

[52] U.S. Cl. ...... 395/206; 395/205; 395/651

[58] Field of Search ..... .... 364/407, 401, 364/408; 395/650

References Cited [56]

#### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

4,827,404	5/1989	Barstow et al	364/407
4,862,357	8/1989	Ahlstrom et al	364/407
4,885,685	12/1989	Wolfberg et al	364/401
4,922,439	5/1990	Greenblatt	364/407

(List continued on next page.)

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

0 660 251 A2 6/1995 European Pat. Off. . 5/1995 WIPO. WO95/12175

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

System One, (1994, Apr. 22-24). IMS brochure.

System One, (1994, Apr. 22). news Releases. System One Introduces Smartmail to Travel Agencies Interested in Saving Time, Reducing Errors & Attracting More Business, pp. 1-3.

Brisson, Mary, (1994, Apr. 18). Business Travel News. System One Reinvents itself, p. 1 (continued) System One's New Self-View: Info Provider, p. 32, issues 286.

Fairlie, Rik, (1994, Mar. 21). Travel Weekly. System One Moves to Synergize its Systems, Software, p. 51 (continued) System One Plans Service-Bureau Approach for Some Products, p. 54.

Finlay, Douglas, (1994, Jan. 10). Travel Agent. RES Systems/Automation Upgrading the System.

Finlay, Douglas, (1993, Nov. 8). Travel Agent. From CRS to

Amadeus Global Travel Distribution, Product Guide-AmadeusPro Sale.

"System Brings you the Most Complete Travel and Financial Information Management System On the Globe", brochure, distributed Nov., 1994.

"Global MAX Consolidates Travel Information From Around the World to Help you Manage and Expand Yours", brochure, distributed May, 1995.

PCT International Search Report (Nov. 29, 1996).

"Study of Airline Commuter Reservation System". May

"Clovia, Galileo sign global travel-information deal"Feb. 1993, by Grace, Tim.

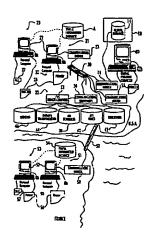
"An Accounting Masterpiece?" Oct. 1992; by Mantel, K.

Primary Examiner-Gail O. Hayes Assistant Examiner-Gita Shingala Attorney, Agent, or Firm-Fish & Richardson P.C.

**ABSTRACT** 

Methods and system for effecting the consolidation of travel reservation information including bookings and ticketing using different currencies is disclosed. Specifically, a method is disclosed in which travel reservation information is generated in a computer reservation system (CRS), the prices of which are represented in a predetermined global currency, and subsequently stored in a global data storage medium, such as a database. The information generated from the CRS can be pre-ticketed or ticketed. The information can be generated from more that one CRS. The system that is disclosed includes a global data storage medium, in which pricing information regarding travel reservations generated in at least one CRS is represent in a global currency and is stored. Each CRS is accessed by at least one locally operated computer system to generate the travel reservation information.

25 Claims, 11 Drawing Sheets



US-PAT-NO:	5644721
DOCUMENT-IDE	NTIFIFR: I

DOCUMENT-IDENTIFIER: US 5644721 A

TITLE: Multiple currency travel reservation information management system and method

	KWIC	
--	------	--

## Brief Summary Text - BSTX (6):

Therefore, in order to attract the corporate business traveler, airlines, hotels, car rental agencies, and other travel related suppliers offer volume discounted rates. Most of the time the **volume discounts** are negotiated based on the volume of travel taken in the preceding months or years. Corporations, thus, require detailed tracking from an entity (either an internal travel department or a travel agency) booking and ticketing the travel arrangements. The following explanation of the travel arranging process will show some of the difficulties experienced with obtaining this information.

## Brief Summary Text - BSTX (17):

Second, the travel information provided to the corporation is never current. This is a problem, because, for example, when generating a report on the money spent with a certain airline for **volume discount** negotiations, any tickets issued and paid for after the transmission of the travel data to the corporation would not be included in the report. If the missed information represents a significant amount of money, the corporation is not using its full bargaining power in the **volume discount** negotiations.

## Detailed Description Text - DETX (29):

In addition to all the features mentioned above, the system shown in FIG. 6 performs all of the functions of the currently marketed MAX back office accounting system, marketed by the assignee of the present invention. These features include end-of-the-day processing 240, a general ledger database 242, process and generate financial reports 248 for both management 250 and accounting 246. Journal entries from accounting are also processed 244 and downloaded into general ledger database 242. The system also processes and generates reports 252 aside from strict accounting reports for management 250. Unlike all the prior systems, the reports generated by this system include

travel <u>price information in a selected currency that is real-time</u> and accurate and are in a preselected language using a preselected date/format/separator and preselected address format.